by Mission agencies, leaving 4 which were managed by other individuals. Individual management was likely to end in failure. In the Tiruvalla taluk there were, in 1090, 154 Elementary schools, of which 47 were departmental schools. Moreover, 14 of the above schools were of the higher grade. In taluks which were backward in education such as Kottarakara, it was necessary that the Government should slightly change their general policy as regards Elementary education and increase the number of departmental schools, both higher and lower grades.

There was only one higher grade school for girls in the taluk. There were two other schools for girls, of which one alone was departmental. The strength of all the above schools came to about 200. The one aided school was likely to stop work. The complaint that qualified female teachers were not available would cease, only if the number of schools for girls were increased in the interior parts of the country where girls from all communities could get admission. The Member requested that the subject of female education in the taluk might also receive the sympathetic consideration of the Government.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

134. Opening of an Agricultural School at Karunagapalli.

Mr. E. Kesava Pillai (Member, Karunagappalli taluk) said that, though the Agricultural Department was doing useful work in the country, the bulk of the people were ignorant of the scientific methods of agriculture. The people were also unwilling to follow the new methods, giving up their old methods; and the department did not always succeed in removing from the minds of the ryots the doubts as to the utility or benefit of improved methods of cultivation. With a view to impart to the ryots a knowledge of scientific cultivation, it was necessary to open agricultural schools all over the State.

The Director of Agriculture had already made certain proposals to the Government on the subject. They were, firstly, that agriculture should be taught as one of the subjects in the Elementary schools situated in agricultural centres, and secondly, that agricultural schools should be opened in every taluk or at least one school for a group of two or three taluks. It was necessary that there should be trained men to teach agricultural subjects in the above schools. The above proposals presupposed the existence of a principal Agricultural Institution in an important centre where persons might get the necessary training to fit them as teachers in the Elementary schools. The Director's proposals had not been sanctioned by the Government. Whatever might be the reasons for not doing so, the fact could not be denied that the bulk of the ryots were ignorant on matters relating to agriculture. The population was increasing and the area available for cultivation was decreasing day by day. It was the duty of the Government, therefore, to encourage agriculturists as far as possible. The taluk of Karunagappalli was an agricultural centre. It was desirable to open an Agricultural school at Ochira. The people were ready to render whatever assistance lay in their power. The proposed school would benefit the adjoining taluks also. There could be no doubt that Ochira was best suited for the purpose. An annual Agricultural Exhibition was held there. It had a Government Farm. The Member, therefore, prayed that an Agricultural school be started at Ochira.

Regarding admission to agricultural schools, the Member said that only those who had an aptitude for agriculture should be admitted and that no examination qualification need be insisted on for admission.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

135. Raising the standard of the Lower Grade Secondary School for Girls at Chengannur.

Mr. K. P. Narayana Pillai (Member, Chengannur taluk) said that the necessity for raising the standard of the L. G. School for girls at Chengannur was very great. The girls who passed the Third Form had either to go to Trivandrum or join the local Higher Grade school for boys to continue their studies. For obvious reasons, both the above courses were not desirable and the result was that many girls had to discontinue their studies. There were at present 25 students in Form III. The place was a healthy one and was growing in importance. If a Higher Grade school was opened there, it would serve the

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people of Tiruvalla also. The people were prepared to give additional buildings for holding more classes at their expense. The Member prayed that the L. G. S. school for Girls at Chengannur might be raised to a Higher Grade Secondary school and that the opening of Form IV be sanctioned, with effect from the beginning of the next school-year.

In reply to the Dewan's query, the Member said that the bigger block in the present buildings was the one constructed by the people. He added that, if the H. G. S. school for boys could be shifted to a more decent building, that building which was put up by the people of the taluk the people would be willing to make over for the use of the Girls' school.

Dewan's reply.—The Member's representation will be referred to the Director of Public Instruction for remarks.

136. Opening of a Higher Grade Secondary School at Haripad.

Mr. S. Subbaraya Iyer (Member, T. L. C., Haripad) said that, since the extinction of the Shunmukha Vilasom High School, the want of a Higher Grade Secondary school at Haripad was the cry of the people year after year. The taluk of Kartigappalli was one of the densest in population and the people were anxious to give higher education to their children. The absence of a school stood in the way of meeting the people's requirements. The existence of Higher Grade schools in the adjoining taluk of Mavelikara did no good to the people of Kartigapalli. The contiguity of an already existing H. G. S. school could not be a valid ground for refusing a similar school at the locality. The opening of a H. G. S. school at Haripad was in the programme framed by Dr. Mitchell and it would have become an accomplished fact, if the Shunmukha Vilasom High school had not existed at the time.

The strength of the existing L. G. S. school had risen. The cost of the additional buildings would not be much. The annual recurring expenditure to the Government would be very small. The inhabitants of the taluk were prepared to contribute a decent sum for purchasing additional land and putting up buildings. If the Government extended their sympathy and encouragement, the people would straightaway collect a large sum of money and place the same at the disposal of the Government. The Member, therefore, requested that a H. G. S. school might be started at Haripad as early as possible.

He then presented four memorials signed by the inhabitants of the place containing the same prayer.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

137. Condition of education in the Shertalai taluk and the desirability of raising the standard of the local Lower Grade Secondary School.

Mr. M. R. Parameswaran Pillai (Member, Shertalai taluk) pointed out that, though the taluk contributed a substantial revenue to the exchequer of the State, the people did not derive any proportionate benefit from the Government. The means of communication in the taluk were poor and nothing worth the name had been done in regard to higher education. According to the rule that 15% of the population must be school-going children, more than 23,000 boys should be attending the schools from the taluk. But, as a matter of fact, only 9,000 boys were receiving instruction in the several schools. After passing the Third Form, the boys had to go to Alleppey, Vaikom, Kottayam, Ernakulam and other places to continue their studies. Those who studied at Ernakulam obtained Cochin School Final Certificates; but the holders of such certificates were not held to be qualified for Government Service in Travancore. In the local L. G. S. school, there were more than 36 students in Form III. There were not many educated persons in the taluk owing to the absence of sufficient schools. The Member, therefore, prayed that the local L. G. S. school might be gradually converted into an H. G. S. school and that Form IV be opened from the beginning of the next school-year.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

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